

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARTS COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2015**



The meeting of September 21, 2015 was held at 10:00 a.m. at the Japanese American Cultural Community Center, 244 South San Pedro, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

Present: Pamela Bright-Moon
Eric Hanks
Helen Hernandez
Constance Jolcuvar
Bettina Korek
Peter Lesnik
Claudia Margolis
Kathryn McDonnell
Richard Montoya
Alis Clausen Odenthal
Claire Peeps
Araceli Ruano
Hope Warschaw
Rosalind Wyman

Absent: Betty Haagen (excused)

Staff: Laura Zucker, Executive Director
Present: Miriam Gonzalez, Executive Assistant

Also Present: Leslie Ito, CEO and President of JACCC
Diane Rodriguez, Associate Producer and Director of New Play Theatre, CTG
Terry Wolverton, Consult'Her
Norma Provencio Pichardo
Jose Delgado

President Peeps called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Absentee Excuses

Roll was taken and on a motion by Commissioner Lesnik, seconded by Commissioner Hanks, the excused absences for the meeting of September 21, 2015 were unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes

Following discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lesnik, seconded by Commissioner Montoya, the minutes for the meeting of June 8, 2015 were unanimously approved.

Presidents Items

Leslie Ito, President and CEO of the Japanese American Community Cultural Center, welcomed Commissioners and invited Commissioners to walk through the James Irvine Japanese Garden and visit the gallery to view the exhibition, *Price Collection: Heart of Beautiful Japan*.

President Peeps introduced Terry Wolverton, the facilitator for the Commission business portion of the agenda.

Holiday Celebration

Heather Rigby, General Manager of Productions, gave an overview of the proposed roster of 20 artists for the 56th Annual Holiday Celebration Program. Ms. Rigby highlighted a few of the groups and musical genres proposed on the roster.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Clausen Odenthal, seconded by Commissioner Lesnik, and carried, to approve the proposed 56th Annual Holiday Celebration Artists (attached) thank the staff for building a diverse roster of artists, authorize the Executive Director to make changes as may be required by production considerations and recommend approval by the Board of Supervisors. Ayes: Commissioners Clausen Odenthal, Lesnik, Bright-Moon, Hanks, Jolcuvar, Korek, McDonnell, Montoya, Peeps, Ruano, Warschaw, and Wyman. Abstained: Commissioner Hernandez. Absent: Commissioner Margolis.

Commission Business

Diane Rodriguez, Associate Producer and Director of New Play Theatre for Center Theatre Group, gave a reading of her work.

Laura Zucker, Executive Director, gave a brief overview of the Arts Commission's history and distributed a program history timeline for commissioners to review.

President Peeps asked the Executive Committee members to report their Supervisor's arts and cultural priorities following their individual meetings with each supervisorial office in July and August.

The following Commissioners gave an overview of the priorities for each of their districts:

Araceli Ruano, First District
Pamela Bright-Moon, Second District
Constance Jolcuvar, Third District
Peter Lesnik, Fourth District
Alis Clausen Odenthal, Fifth District

Commissioners discussed district priorities in general.

Terry Wolverton gave an overview of the general topics that came up for all five Supervisorial offices including Increasing Diversity/Arts Access for Everyone, Developing Stronger Ties Within the County, Developing Arts Leadership in LA County, Connecting the Arts to Other Issues, and Jobs and Professional Development.

President Peeps thanked Commissioner Montoya for his service on the Arts Commission and announced that Supervisor Solis is appointing a new commissioner to serve in his seat.

Commissioners shared summer highlights of events and activities that occurred within their districts over the summer.

President Peeps asked Commissioner Lesnik to give an overview of governance, protocol and communication, and the roles of Commissioners and staff. Commissioners engaged in a discussion around their roles and responsibilities and communication.

President Peeps introduced discussion on possible new initiatives such as adopting a cultural policy and deepening cross sector work with other county departments.

Commissioners discussed these as well as several other possible new initiatives including finding ways to support diversity on staffs and boards of arts organizations and supporting artists through innovation and risk-taking.

Public Comment

None.

The Arts Commission meeting of September 21, 2015 was adjourned at 3:05 p.m. by President Peeps.